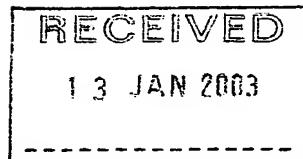




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% The Patent Department
Black & Decker Europe
210 Bath Road
SLOUGH
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Your Reference: P-UK-PR1082
Application No: GB 0220994.8

10 January 2003

**The Patent Office
Patents Directorate**

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Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)

I enclose two copies of my search report and a copy of the citations.

Publication

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **3 February 2004**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

Amendment/withdrawal

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: **"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT".**

Comment on citations

The two documents cited under category Y disclose reels for storage as specified in claims

[†]**Use of E-mail:** Please note that e-mail should be used for correspondence only.



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Application No: GB 0220994.8

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4, 5 and 11. In the absence of any synergistic features, these claims appear to specify mere collocations with the features of the previous claims which are also known, being disclosed in the documents cited under category X. Claims 4, 5 and 11 therefore lack inventive step.

Yours faithfully

Frederick Fee
Examiner



Application No: GB 0220994.8
Claims searched: 1 to 17

Examiner: Frederick Fee
Date of search: 9 January 2003

Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance	
X	1, 16	GB 2363916 A	[JAEGER]
X	1, 2, 3, 16	JP 2001307835 A	[MATSUSHITA] DC outlets 3 suitable for charging
X	1, 2, 3, 16	JP 4-112468 A	[TOSHIBA] Dc outlets 16 suitable for charging
Y	4, 5, 11	DE 4405391 A	[BRENNENSTUHL]
Y	4, 5, 11	JP 2002226143 A	[ARATA]

Categories:

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
& Member of the same patent family	E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC^V:

H2E

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC^C:

H01R, H02G

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report:

WPI, JAPIO, EPODOC